

## **BOARD OF HEALTH Minutes**

December 18, 2008

Present: Ellen Leahy-Pile, Nancy Gilbert, David Ahlfeld

Staff: Epi Bodhi, Ellen Bokina, Keith Carlson, Pamela Field-Sadler

**Meeting opened at 7:10 p.m.**

### **I. Review & Receive**

#### **A. Meeting Minutes**

1. Modifications were suggested for the draft minutes of November 20, 2008 – Unanimously accepted with suggested modifications.
2. Executive Session minutes from November 20, 2008 – Unanimously accepted as written.

### **II. New Business**

#### **A. Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act**

The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act is a new federal pool safety law which takes effect December 19, 2008. The new federal law requires pool owners to install anti-entrapment drains or grate covers designed to protect swimmers and public hot tub users from suction entrapment. Ms. Bokina explained, Health Department Inspectors have notified pool and spa owners of the new law as they completed inspections over the past year. At this point, the Hampshire Athletic Club, Amherst Middle School and Hampshire College pools are not in compliance; Amherst College and the Elements Spa are currently compliant. Ms. Bokina has informed pool/spa owners if they are not compliant on December 19, 2008, their pool/spa must be closed. Ms. Bodhi has discussed implications of this law with the Town Manager. The Health Department inspectors will conduct pool inspections on Monday – 12/22/08.

At 7:43 p.m., Chairman Ahlfeld suggested the Board of Health convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing ongoing and potential litigation; the Board of Health will reconvene in Open Session.

**Motion:** Ms. Gilbert made the motion, seconded by Ms. Leahy-Pile, to convene in Executive Session in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 39, S.23B for the purpose of discussing ongoing and potential litigation.

**Roll Call:** Gilbert: aye; Leahy-Pile: aye; Ahlfeld: aye

At 8:08 p.m., the Board of Health reconvened in Open Session and continued with New Business.

#### **B. 58 Bridge Street**

Ms. Bokina informed the BOH a complaint was received of a possible rodent infestation at 58 Bridge Street. The situation has been reviewed. In an effort to establish the primary location of the rodents, the Health Department inspectors visited the nearby Kimball Farm and advised owners to use best farming practices.

**C. New Inspectional Fees**

The Board of Health reviewed proposed fee increases for Health Department inspectional services. The fees would go into effect for the next license renewal.

**III. Old Business**

**A. Board of Health Retreat**

Item tabled until all BOH members are present for discussion.

**B. Tobacco Regulations**

The BOH reviewed a draft of proposed changes to the Board of Health Tobacco Control Regulations, as well as two drafts of proposed regulations regarding multi-unit residences. The BOH began a list of objectives to cover in updating the regulations including multi-unit dwellings, outside smoking and smoking bars. This discussion will continue at the next BOH meeting with all members present. Ms. Leahy-Pile will invite DJ Wilson, MMA Staff Attorney, to the next BOH meeting.

**IV. Director's Reports**

**A. Introduce Public Health Nurse**

Ms. Bodhi introduced Keith Carlson, RN, BS who has accepted the position of the Public Health Nurse.

**B. rDNA Applications**

Ms. Bodhi informed the BOH two (2) rDNA applications, complete with required fees, have been submitted to the Health Department. The applications have been forwarded to Maureen O'Leary for review.

**C. Title V Inspections: City of Northampton**

Ms. Bodhi has received a contract from the City of Northampton for Title V inspections. Ms. Bokina will begin conducting the City of Northampton's Title V inspections in January 2009. The hours of the Assistant Sanitarian will increase a bit to accommodate for the additional inspections.

**V. Schedule Next BOH Meeting/Agenda Closing Date**

**A.** The next BOH meeting will be January 15, 2009.

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:08 p.m.**

